US ERA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

AGENCY: ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)

TITLE: Integrated Assessment of Greenhouse Gases and Climate Impacts

ACTION: Request for Proposals (RFP)

RFP NUMBER: EPA-OAR-CCD-10-13

CFDA: 66.034

SUMMARY: Formal Agency responses to questions regarding the subject RFP

DATE: November 18, 2010

Q1: We are a non-profit/non-governmental organization in India that works on issues of Health, Environment, Education, Energy, Rehabilitation, Human Rights and Advocacy, Conservation and Women Empowerment. We have seen in the RFP that you fund non-profit organizations. We want to submit a project proposal. If you give permission, we will send the detailed project report to you.

**A1:** Please see Section III "Eligibility Information" of the RFP. Non-profit organizations and international organizations are eligible entities that may apply for funding under this announcement. All project proposals must address all the requirements in the RFP, including how to submit a proposal package.

Q2: I would like to find out to which specific IPM (Integrated Planning Model) systems the RFP refers to.

**A2:** We have purposefully not specified a particular tool or model system applicants need to incorporate. As part of the project proposal, applicants must provide in detail their concept of an integrated assessment model addressing the requirements listed in the RFP.

Q3: The RFP states that the total funding available is \$2,000,000 over 5 years, and that the funding cap per year is \$400,000. So hypothetically, if you funded one 3-year cooperative agreement at capacity, that would be \$1,200,000. Could you also then partially fund a second cooperative agreement up to \$800,000 to reach your \$2,000,000 limit?

**A3:** There is not a minimum funding limit for this RFP. Therefore, the above funding theory could be a possibility. Please keep in mind there are numerous possible project funding/year scenarios that could be awarded. Final decisions are based on funding requests of evaluated proposals that are highly ranked, geographic diversity and other programmatic priorities.

## Q4: Can another federal agency be a cooperative partner in a proposal, provided that the agency requests no funding from the award?

**A4:** In Accordance with this RFP's catalog of federal domestic assistance (CFDA) 66.034, proposals will be accepted from the following eligible entities: State, local governments, territories, Indian Tribes, and possessions of the U.S., including the District of Columbia, international organizations, public and private universities and colleges, hospitals, laboratories, other public or private non-profit institutions. If an applicant submits a proposal that includes partnering or collaborating with another federal agency or federal employee, the applicant must consult and comply with the other federal agency's grant and ethics policies. EPA will only award assistance agreements to a single eligible entity, which will be administratively and fiscally responsible for all grant activities and federal funds.

Q5: Can a federal employee be a co-PI (principal investigator) in a proposal, provided that the employee requests no funding from the award?

**A5:** A federal employee would be eligible to contribute as a principal investigator providing expertise toward the applicant's proposed project. However, he or she would <u>not be able to act as a principal investigator during his or her official duties as a government employee.</u> Their work as a principal investigator would have to be separate from his or her official governmental duties. **Please have the federal employee consult with their Agency's grant and ethics policies.** 

Q6. How do we treat National Laboratories, which are government owned/contractor operated (GOCO) facilities, under this RFP? The people that work there are not federal employees, right? So would they be eligible?

**A6.** Applicants are responsible for determining whether they are an eligible entity for this funding announcement. It is also the responsibility of an applicant to determine what type of organization they plan to partner or collaborate with, not EPA. Once the competition closes and during the threshold criteria evaluation of proposals, EPA will determine whether an applicant is eligible or not, and notify ineligible applicants accordingly. If an applicant proposes to subcontract to a specific entity (laboratory), the applicant must follow the proper procurement provisions in 40 CFR part 30 or 31. Additionally, please refer to section IV parts D and E of the RFP for guidance regarding subcontracts and partnerships.